

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims, in the application:

Listing of Claims:

What is claimed is:

1. – 4. (Canceled)

5. (New) A drill head for a drilling machine comprising:
a structure comprising a shaft, a drill rod coupled to an inner driver, and a drill sleeve essentially parallel to the drill rod and coupled to an outer driver; and
a protective screen panel coupled to the structure,
wherein the protective screen panel is movable from a first position substantially exposing the inner and the outer drivers and at least a portion of the shaft when the drilling machine is not in operation, to a second position encircling an aperture between the drill rod and the drill sleeve when the drilling machine is in operation, a slurry being discharged from the aperture.

6. (New) The drill head of claim 5, wherein the protective screen panel has an essentially U-shaped profile, and wherein the protective screen panel is made of one or more pieces.

7. (New) The drill head of claim 5, wherein the protective screen panel is coupled to the structure by coupling one or more connection elements connected to the protective screen panel to one or more connection supports connected to the structure.

8. (New) The drill head of claim 7, wherein the one or more connection elements or the one or more connection support are configured to enable an adjustment of the position of the protective screen panel in relation to the structure.

9. (New) The drill head of claim 5, wherein the drilling machine comprises a motor, and wherein the protective screen panel is movable by the motor.

10. (New) The drill head of claim 5, wherein the protective screen panel is movable sideways from the first position to the second position.

11. (New) The drill head of claim 5, wherein the protective screen panel is movable from the first position to the second position in a direction essentially parallel to a longitudinal axis of the drill rod and of the drill sleeve.

12. (New) The drill head of claim 5, wherein the protective screen panel is adjustable to direct an outflow of slurry in different directions during the operation of the drilling machine.

13. (New) The drill head of claim 5, wherein the protective screen panel is movable by a pneumatic or hydraulic piston.

14. (New) A drill head for a drilling machine comprising:
a structure comprising a shaft, a drill rod coupled to an inner driver, and a drill sleeve essentially parallel to the drill rod and coupled to an outer driver; and
a protective screen panel coupled to the structure, the protective screen having an essentially U-shaped profile made of one or more pieces,
wherein the protective screen panel is movable by a motor from a first position substantially exposing the inner and the outer drivers and at least a portion of the shaft when the drilling machine is not in operation, to a second position encircling an aperture between the drill rod and the drill sleeve when the drilling machine is in operation, a slurry being discharged from the aperture,

wherein the protective screen panel is coupled to the structure by coupling one or more connection elements connected to the protective screen panel to one or more connection supports connected to the structure, and

wherein the protective screen panel is adjustable to direct an outflow of slurry in different directions during the operation of the drilling machine.